



OCTOBER 2013

## NAVAJO COUNTY ARIZONA



# COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS CREATE COUNTY REVENUE, STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS WITH WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

Navajo County and the White Mountain Apache Tribe have long had a close relationship, working together to increase efficiencies, save taxpayer money and provide assistance.

Now, the county and the Tribe are coming together to improve public safety through several unique and historic cooperative partnerships.

The Navajo County Sheriff's Office recently signed an agreement with the Tribe to allow deputies to respond to requests for police assistance on tribal land and to allow tribal public safety officers to do the same within Navajo County. Deputies aided the Tribe during the recent 87th Annual White Mountain Apache Tribal Fair and Rodeo in Whiteriver last month. Tribal law enforcement offered assistance during the Navajo County Fair. Allowing each entity to assist the other quickens response times and ensures help is close by.

"Creating this partnership increases our abilities to protect residents in the county and on tribal land," Sheriff KC Clark said.



The 82nd Annual Navajo County Fair was a highlight of September in the White Mountains. From left, Sheriff KC Clark, Supervisor Chairman Jonathan Nez and his son, Christopher, Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly and his wife, and Judge Ralph Hatch stop for a photo at the Southwest Navajo Fair Parade.

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"It's important for Navajo County to build these partnerships with tribal communities," said Supervisor Dawnafe Whitesinger. "This agreement will allow the White Mountain Apache tribal government to meet its obligation to ensure the safety of the community, especially in high traffic times, like the fair."

To save the Tribe money and increase convenience for tribal members, the Sheriff's Office is offering space inside its jail to house tribal members convicted of minor crimes. The Tribe will pay \$55 a day to house inmates in the jail, which has a capacity of 430 inmates. The county will not have to hire additional staff to handle up to 25 tribal inmates a day.

"With this agreement, we are able to keep families together and provide jobs in our county," said Sheriff KC Clark.

The Sheriff's Office also helped the Tribe add a new member to the police force: a drug-sniffing dog. Navajo County along with the Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas program helped provide the dog and the training needed for both the dog and its handler. Orras, a 5-year-old Belgian Malinois, will partner with tribal police Sgt. Ted Shaw to patrol the streets and aid in searches.

Clark said the two new agreements and working to provide the Tribe with a drug-sniffing dog will improve public safety in the entire area.

"Drug-sniffing dogs are an invaluable resource for police departments," Sheriff Clark said. "This resource will help the Tribe curtail drug-running efforts that is far too common in the White Mountains."



District II County Supervisor Jesse Thompson was represented in the Fair Parade.



This John Deere tractor is headed to the Arizona State Fair! Congratulations to the Navajo County Assessor's office for winning "Best of Fair." Assessor Cammy Darris and her team participate in the fair every year, supporting this decades-old County tradition.





# 36 GRADUATE FIRST-EVER COUNTY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



Navajo County's first-ever Leadership Academy graduated a class of 36 County employees in September. This diverse group of workers had spent the previous nine months undergoing intensive training on subjects including County finance, human resource management, conflict resolution, hiring practices, customer service, managing in a political environment, leadership, and ethics.

"Leaders aren't born, they are made, and they are made like anything else, through hard work," said Navajo County Supervisor David Tenney, quoting revered football icon Vince Lombardi in a keynote address to the Leadership Academy's 36 graduates, their families and friends. "That's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal or any goal."

The Leadership Academy – almost a year in the making and in its execution – was

held completely in-house to save on costs and to cut down on travel time for all involved. It was created through a partnership with the Alliance for Innovation, an organization affiliated with the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and Arizona State University (ASU). Coursework was presented by professionals from various parts of the County's organization, including the Finance, Human Resources, and Administration departments, and augmented with information and best practices supplied by ICMA and ASU.

"We have wanted to do something like this for some time now," said Navajo County Manager James Jayne. "Day in and day out, even during the tough times, we've focused on keeping great employees and developing their skills. We've had to be creative given the budget constraints, but initiatives like this give our

people a chance to be successful in their careers by providing a well thought out and professional development course."

Supervisor Tenney congratulated the County's Strategic Planning Team for their creativity and eye toward saving taxpayer dollars.

"It's difficult to place a hard number on the overall cost savings, but it is not unreasonable to believe that we have saved tens of thousands of dollars when you factor in all the savings on travel expenses, per diem rates, time away from work and fees for conferences or professional training for 36 people," said the Supervisor.

The Leadership Academy graduates: Scott Badger, Leann Baker, Lupita Banuelos, William Bess, Jeanine Carruthers, Cameron Crandell, Ricky Denton, Christine Frayer, Rene Fuentes, Lannie Gillespie, Glenn Hoskins, Alysia James, Joel Johnston, Paula Kelley, John Larsen, Janelle Linne, Sheila Malone, Russell McCray, Mike Meeks, Sherilynn Nobel, Charalie Perkins, Paige Peterson, Renee Pinnell, Keith Plympton, Pamela Reid, Mark Reynolds, Dave Rodriguez, Deanne Romo, Brandon Rumizis, Peggy Saunders, Carolyn Sellers, Diana Serna, Rob Simpson, Vicky Solomon, Leah Thomas, Leighann Yazzie.

## RECORDER JUSTMAN MAKES DOING BUSINESS EASIER

Obtaining documents and other recorded information from the Navajo County Recorder's Office just became a lot easier.

County Recorder Laurette Justman announced her office will now accept credit card payments for documents, allowing the copies to be mailed out faster.

The service is offered for just \$2.50 or 3 percent of the transaction value, whichever is greater.

"We want to make it as inexpensive and convenient as possible for our customers to obtain the documents they need," Justman said.

The Recorder's Office is a repository for all recorded documents. The office also handles all election issues in the County, including voter registration.

Justman said customers can call her office and ask for a specific document. The office will take the credit card and then mail the document. Customers can still come into the office and pay cash, but for those who don't want to travel to the office, this new option provides convenience.

Contact the Recorder's Office at 928-524-4194.

# NPC STUDENT AND WIFE OF SHERIFF'S DEPUTY EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION, SCHOLARSHIP

Northland Pioneer College student Beth Harbold is used to giving.

The wife of Navajo County Sheriff's Deputy Graham Harbold is a licensed practical nurse and she's going to school to become a registered nurse. In the fall, Beth organizes a community coat drive, bringing in 500 coats, scarves and hats to hand out in the winter to people who cannot afford them.

Now, Beth is on the receiving end of generosity. She is one of 20 people nationwide to receive a Frank Lanza Memorial Scholarship award. The

scholarship is for \$2,500 and allows her to pay for the rest of her schooling without taking out loans or asking her family for help. The scholarship is given out by the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society to reward students enrolled in nursing programs at community colleges.

"Beth is the perfect recipient of this scholarship," Navajo County Sheriff KC Clark said. "She is one of those dedicated nurses who gives a smile and a helping hand wherever she can."

After finishing at NPC, Beth will take her registered nursing exam. She then

plans to continue her education at Arizona State University to obtain her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing.

Beth and Graham settled down in Pinetop-Lakeside after more than a decade of moving from community to community while Graham served in the U.S. Army. Beth commutes 90 miles each way to NPC's Winslow campus for her classes.

"I am so proud of Beth's efforts to help other people," said her husband, Graham. "Beth always is looking out for our neighbors to make an impact in our community."

## Trunk or Treat

### PARTY TIME COMING TO HEBER-OVERGAARD

#### In Heber Overgaard, it's Trunk or Treat time.

For the seventh year, the Heber-Overgaard Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the fun and free event at Tall Timbers Park. The party kicks off at 5 p.m. Oct. 26.

The Chamber is still seeking volunteers for the free two-hour event.

The popular event features free hot dogs, homemade chili, hot chocolate and, of course, free candy. And the highlight of the evening is a contest for best decorated car or trunk.

Kids and adults can walk through a haunted house, take hay rides and sit by a bonfire roasting marshmallows.

The Chamber is also looking for donations of candy, prizes for the contests and cakes for the cakewalk, along with volunteers to help put on the event.

For information, call 928-535-5777.

